

Topical Heading

School Improvement

Program Title

Fund for the Improvement of Education— Programs of National Significance

Also Known as

FIE

CFDA # (or ED #)

84.215K; 84.215U

Administering Office

Office of Innovation and Improvement (OII)

Who May Apply (by category)

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Nonprofit Organizations, Other Organizations and/or Agencies, State Education Agencies (SEAs)

Who May Apply (specifically)

Other eligible organizations include public, private, and for-profit organizations and institutions may apply.

Current Competitions

None. FY 2006 funds support continuation awards under # 84.215U. No funds were appropriated for earmarked grants under # 84.215K.

Type of Assistance (by category)

Discretionary/Competitive Grants, Contracts

Appropriations

Fiscal Year 2004	\$206,379,478
Fiscal Year 2005	\$257,115,096
Fiscal Year 2006	\$11,668,140

Fiscal Year 2006 Awards Information

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Number of New Awards Anticipated: 0

Number of Continuation Awards: 5

Note: The number of continuation awards above does not include those specified in report language accompanying the FY 2006 appropriations bill.

Legislative Citation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title V, Part D, Subpart 1, Secs. 5411–5414; 20 *U.S.C.* 7243–7243c.

Program Regulations

EDGAR

Program Description

FIE provides authority for the secretary of education to support nationally significant programs to improve the quality of elementary and secondary education at the state and local levels and help all students meet challenging state academic content standards and student achievement standards. The types of programs that may be supported include: activities to promote systemic education reform at the state and local levels; programs at the state and local levels that are designed to yield significant results, including programs to explore approaches to public school choice and school-based decisionmaking; recognition programs; and scientifically based studies and evaluations of

education reform strategies and innovations. All funded programs must be designed so that their effectiveness is readily ascertainable and is assessed using rigorous, scientifically based research and evaluations.

Types of Projects

Activities that have been supported included the following:

- Teach for America (TFA) received a one-year grant. TFA is the national corps of outstanding recent college graduates of all academic majors who commit two years to teach in low-income urban and rural public schools and who go on to become lifelong leaders in the movement to expand education opportunity. Under this grant, TFA trained and continues to support 2,100 new teachers (the 2005 corps). This represents at least a 20 percent increase in the number of highly qualified new teachers that TFA placed nationwide for the 2005–06 school year. Grant funds were used to offset a portion of the costs to train the 2,100 new teachers in a fully residential, intensive summer training institute and to provide professional development during the first year in the classroom.
- Public/Private Ventures (P/PV) received a two-year grant. P/PV is working with local intermediaries to assist up to 100 local community- and faith-based organizations in five cities (approximately 20 per city) to become certified providers of Supplemental Educational Services (SES). This project builds upon a successful effort in Philadelphia that enabled 23 such providers to achieve certification and to solidify their capacities to provide reading instruction to eligible low-income children in neighborhoods throughout the city. The current project includes: the production of state-specific guidance and simplified application forms to assist organizations in applying for SES certification; planning and carrying out a careful sequence of training and capacity-building efforts both to strengthen and enrich the local organizations' existing education programs and to assist them in completing the SES application and certification process; and ongoing technical support.
- Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) is a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to actively support parental choice to empower families and increase quality education options for black children. Funding provided in FY 2004 will assist BAEO to further this mission through continuation of Project Clarion. Project Clarion is an outreach and communications campaign designed to educate parents about the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)*, including parents' opportunity to take advantage of public school choice and supplemental educational services under *NCLB*, and inform parents about other education options in select cities with BAEO chapters. These select cities have high concentrations of low-income black families in at-risk communities with children in schools identified as in need of improvement SEAs.

Education Level (by category)

K–12

Subject Index

Academic Achievement, Demonstration Programs, Educational Assessment, Educational Improvement, Elementary Secondary Education, Recognition (Achievement)

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Links to Related Web Sites

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/fie/index.html>